

Obituary

JOHN L. DAVISON, M.D.

THE following appreciation of the late Dr. Davison has been received from Dr. H. B. Anderson, of Toronto:

Dr. John L. Davison, of Toronto, died at the residence of his brother, W. S. Davidson, Esq., in Napanee, on April 20th, 1917, where he had gone to spend the Easter holidays. Dr. Davison had been in indifferent health for some years being a victim of angina pectoris. The immediate cause of his death was pneumonia.

Born in 1853, Dr. Davison was the youngest son of John and Jane (Swanzy) Davison, who came to Canada about 1815 from Co. Antrim, Ireland, and settled at Odessa, Frontenac County. As a boy he attended the public school at Yarker; afterwards he studied at the Newburgh Grammar School and the Toronto Normal School, where he was awarded the McCabe Gold Medal. He was a teacher in the Provincial Model School, Toronto, for ten years, during which time he graduated in Arts in 1880 in the University of Toronto. He then studied Medicine in Trinity Medical College, where he graduated in 1884, afterwards pursuing post-graduate studies in Edinburgh and London, where he took the M.R.C.S. qualification. Returning to Canada he began practice in Toronto in 1885. The same year he was appointed Professor of Pathology in the Women's Medical College, and the following year Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in Trinity Medical College. Appointed visiting physician to the Toronto General Hospital in 1887, he relinquished this post in 1907 in order to facilitate what was considered would be a satisfactory reorganization of the staff of the hospital, and was appointed to the consulting staff. On the federation of Trinity with the University of Toronto in 1902 he became Professor of Clinical Medicine in the latter institution. For many years he was editor of the *Canada Lancet*. On the organization of the Imperial Life Assurance Company he was appointed medical referee; later also he became consulting referee to the Manufacturers Life.

Dr. Davison was a member of the Masonic Order and of the National, Toronto, York and Tadanec clubs. In politics he was a Conservative; in religion a Presbyterian; he never married.

In the death of Dr. Davison the medical profession of Canada has lost one of its most esteemed and distinguished members. After beginning practice in Toronto, he soon became established as one of the best known and highly regarded physicians of the city, and his popularity, not alone with his patients, but with his medical confrères and the public at large, continued to increase until the time of his death. The reasons for his success are not difficult to appreciate. His handsome appearance, distinguished and dignified bearing, his direct, straightforward and honourable attitude toward all with whom he came in contact, his kindly and philosophic outlook on life, were all features of a unique personality which attracted and retained warm friendships. Highly endowed by nature, he had the further advantage of a thorough general and professional education, extended by travel and intercourse with people prominent in social, educational, political, and business affairs.

He was an excellent clinical teacher and lecturer, the breadth and soundness of whose judgement made a deep impression on his students. He was the ideal type of the cultured and skilful family physician, eminently fitted to be "friend, counsellor, and guide" to his large and influential clientèle. It must be rare indeed that one is rewarded with a deeper hold upon the confidence and affection of those to whom he ministers, or who seek advice in their troubles. His friends were legion, and included all ranks and classes of society, —men and women, old and young, rich and poor—all came under the spell of his broad human sympathy, kindness of heart and sparkling humour. For ten years he lived under the shadow of angina pectoris, which confined his activities within a steadily narrowing sphere, yet, without complaint, he adjusted himself to enforced limitations, which, however, never abated the joy of living. In fact, his last years he repeatedly said were the happiest of his life, his physical disability giving him more leisure for reading, reflection and for music, especially of the violin, at which he passed many pleasant hours with a small set of intimate friends.

He was an expert with rod and gun, and it was exhilarating to watch the boyish enthusiasm with which he prepared for his frequent outings to the Georgian Bay, where he revelled in the beauties of nature in the company of kindred spirits at the Tadenac Club. On hearing of his death, Dr. George T. Elliot of New York, one of his companions of the Tadenac, wrote as follows:

"It was a great shock; it was a terrible sorrow and a deep realization of irreparable loss I experienced and felt when the fact

was brought in to me that our dear old friend, the sweetest-natured friend and companion ever, had been called away and had left us behind—yes, to follow him eventually—but still without his company. Alone has he gone from those he loved and who loved him, and it is with deep sadness I am writing you my feelings, knowing how you also were close and dear to him. What a pity he has gone, and how we will miss him—not for a day or a month—but for all the time that still remains to us, his cheeriness, his loveableness, his kindly smile and overbrimming milk of human kindness will be a cherished memory. May God bless him.”

In accordance with his wishes and in keeping with his simple tastes, he was buried in the family plot in the pretty cemetery on the banks of the Sydenham River, near the village of Florence, where his boyhood days were spent, and whence a number of his old friends accompanied the remains to pay their last tribute of love and respect.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL HEWETSON, M.D.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL SAMUEL W. HEWETSON, C.A.M.C., whose death occurred on March 6th, at the Royal Free Hospital, London, after an operation, had been on active service for about a year. In August, 1914, he was in practice at Pincher Creek in Alberta, and upon the declaration of war, immediately offered his services to his country. He was appointed regimental medical officer of a battalion that was going overseas, and later A.D.M.S. of Military District No. 13. He was anxious, however, to get to the front and when the Eighth Field Ambulance was authorized, he was given command of that unit and in due course proceeded overseas. The strain of his military duties told upon him severely and some time ago it was reported that he was suffering from nervous breakdown and shell shock, and later came the report of his death. Lieutenant-Colonel Hewetson was in the forty-ninth year of his age and was unmarried. He had practised for a time at Calgary before going to Pincher Creek, and was a graduate of McGill University of the year 1893.

MAJOR DAVID B. BENTLEY, M.D.

MAJOR BENTLEY, whose death occurred in England early in April, volunteered his services as soon as war had been declared and was appointed to the command of the Fourteenth Field Ambulance.

Some months were spent in training at Valcartier and when the first contingent of the Canadian Expeditionary Force left for England, Major Bentley with his unit accompanied it. After a year's hard service at the front he returned to England and for a time was on duty at Monk's Horton. Later he was appointed to take charge of the medical base hospital depot at Southampton. His health, however, had been seriously undermined while at the front and he never regained his strength. A few months ago he entered the Granville Special Canadian Hospital at Ramsgate and it was there that his death occurred. David Bentley was born in 1864, and took his degree at Trinity Medical College in 1891. He was in practice at Sarnia, Ontario, and was well known as a physician throughout the western part of the province, where he was also district medical officer of health. He leaves a widow and two sons, both of whom are on active service.

DR. THOMAS SPARKS, of St. Mary's, Ontario, died on April 10th, after a long illness. He was a graduate of the University of Toronto, where he took his medical degree in 1867, and practised for some years at Lakeside, in the province of Ontario. From Lakeside he went to St. Mary's about twenty-five years ago and continued to practise until about five years ago. His son, Captain G. Lindsay Sparks, C.A.M.C., of London, Ontario, is on active service.

DR. HENRY JAMES FIXOTT, who died on April 11th, was in the seventy-third year of his age and had been in practice at Arichat, Nova Scotia, for almost fifty years. Dr. Fixott came of an old Jersey Island family, his father and grandfather before him being of the medical profession and the latter serving at one time as surgeon in the British Army. He graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1866.

DR. WALLACE G. KING, of Buctouche, New Brunswick, died suddenly on April 21st. He had been in poor health for some time, but seemed to be improving and had resumed work, and it was upon his return from visiting a patient that he suddenly expired. Dr. King had been in practice at Woodstock for thirty-two years and will be greatly missed by his patients, to whom he had endeared himself by his unselfishness and devotion to duty. He was sixty-seven years of age and is survived by a widow, three sons and three daughters.

DR. JAMES A. ROSS, of Barrie, Ontario, died on May 1st, in the fifty-second year of his age. He was born in Oro Township the son of the late James Ross, at one time Warden of the County, and received his medical degree from the University of Toronto. He completed his medical studies at Edinburgh and Glasgow and upon his return to Canada took up practice as an eye, ear, nose and throat specialist. He had practised at Barrie since 1895, but for the past twelve months had been in poor health. He never married. His brother, Captain W. A. Ross, C.A.M.C., is at present in France and another brother, Captain Victor Ross, C.A.M.C., was sanitary officer at Niagara Camp last year.

DR. JOHN BUCHANAN WILSON, who died at Ottumwa, Iowa, on April 20th, was a Canadian by birth and a graduate of the University of Toronto.

DR. H. E. HAMMILL, of Assiniboia, died suddenly at Weyburn on Saturday, April 14th. Dr. Hammill was the son of Mr. J. D. Hammill, mayor and postmaster at Meaford, Ontario. He was in practice at Assiniboia and was about thirty-two years of age. He leaves a widow.

DR. NEIL ROY STEWART, who also died suddenly at Weyburn on April 14th, was in practice at East End, Saskatchewan, until a short time ago when he was appointed medical officer of the 249th Battalion. He subsequently severed his connexion with the battalion, however. Dr. Stewart was born in 1889 and graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1914.

DR. E. L. GRAVES died at Mount Bridges, Ontario, on March 5th, of pulmonary tuberculosis. Dr. Graves received his degree from Western University Medical School in 1914.

News

ONTARIO

DR. M. F. E. GRAHAM, who has been assistant physician in charge of the women's wards at the Eastern Hospital for the Insane at Brockville for the past two years, has been appointed